

## HRA - Hearing Aids

### **HRA-EQ      EQUIPMENT**

**OUTCOME:** The patient/family will understand the types and features of hearing aids and will participate in the choice of hearing aids for the patient's own use. The patient/family will understand proper operation and care of the hearing aid.

**STANDARDS:**

1. Explain the types and sizes of hearing aids available, e.g., behind-the-ear (BTE), in-the-ear (ITE), in-the-canal (ITC), completely in the canal (CIC), programmable, digital.
2. Explain the features available on hearing aids, e.g., telecoils, vents, shell materials, markings, removal handles, special circuitry.
3. Discuss specific recommendations for the patient.
4. Explain the parts of the hearing aids and have the patient/family practice operation of the hearing aids.
5. Explain the care and maintenance of the hearing aids.

### **HRA-FU      FOLLOW-UP**

**OUTCOME:** The patient/family will understand the importance of follow-up in the treatment of hearing loss.

**STANDARDS:**

1. Discuss the importance of follow-up care, including the importance of assessing the effectiveness of hearing aids and correcting problems that may develop.
2. Discuss the procedure for obtaining follow-up appointments and that follow-up appointments should be kept.
3. Emphasize that full participation of the treatment plan is the responsibility of the patient/family.
4. Discuss signs/symptoms that should prompt immediate follow-up.
5. Discuss the availability of community resources and support services and refer as appropriate.

### **HRA-HY      HYGIENE**

**OUTCOME:** The patient/family will recognize good personal hygiene with regard to hearing aid usage.

**STANDARDS:**

1. Review the importance of maintaining good personal hygiene to avoid ear canal infection.
2. Emphasize that prior to baths and showers, the hearing aid must be removed and that the ear canal should be dry before re-inserting the hearing aid.

**HRA-L LITERATURE**

**OUTCOME:** Patient will receive literature about hearing loss, hearing aid use, or communication strategies.

**STANDARDS:**

1. Provide the patient/family with literature on hearing loss, hearing aid use, or communication strategies.
2. Discuss the content of the literature.

**HRA-LA LIFESTYLE ADAPTATIONS**

**OUTCOME:** The patient/family will understand communication and lifestyle adaptations that will optimize the patient's ability to actively participate in communication using hearing aids.

**STANDARDS:**

1. Discuss the importance of adjusting to the hearing aid; maintaining hygiene, and keeping the hearing aid in optimal working order.
2. Discuss that the hearing aid may be initially uncomfortable but with continued wear most people adjust.
3. Discuss the role of hearing aids, speech-reading, speech characteristics, and control of environmental factors in the communication process.
4. Refer to community resources as appropriate.